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TOR: 311736Z JAN 96

IN 3036773*

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(b)(3)

~~SECRET~~ 311717Z JAN 96 STAFF

CITE [REDACTED]

TO: IMMEDIATE DIRECTOR.

FOR: LIMIT D/CPAS

SLUGS:

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - [REDACTED]

REF: DIRECTOR 620504 | 96 3022900 |

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: [REDACTED]

2. THE FOLLOWING IS MY RESPONSE TO REF. [REDACTED]

ALMOST ELEVEN YEARS HAVE PASSED. I HAVE NO NOTES NOR ACCESS TO FILES TO REFRESH MY MEMORY. INFORMATION CONCERNING [REDACTED] REF QUESTIONS WERE REPORTED AT THE TIME. THE WRITTEN RECORD IS MUCH MORE ACCURATE THAN ANY PARTIAL RECOLLECTION I CAN PROVIDE NOW.

I.

A. I RECALL THE 1983 OLANCHO OPERATION. IT WAS IN RESPONSE TO THE INSERTION OF AN INSURGENT COLUMN INTO HONDURAS FROM NICARAGUA SPONSORED BY THE SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA AND THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT. THE COLUMN WAS INTENDED TO BE THE BEGINNING OF WIDESPREAD INSURGENT ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT CENTRAL HONDURAS. THE HONDURAN ARMED FORCES MOUNTED AN INTENSIVE COUNTER INSURGENCY OPERATION WHICH CAPTURED OR KILLED MOST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COLUMN. I DO NOT KNOW HOW REYES MATTA DIED. I REMEMBER THAT THERE WAS MUCH SPECULATION ABOUT THE POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF A FOREIGN PRIEST WITH REYES' GROUP WHEN IT ENTERED HONDURAS. I BELIEVE THAT FATHER CARNEY'S FAMILY CAME FORWARD AND IDENTIFIED HIM AS PADRE GUADALUPE AND STATED THAT HE WAS A PART OF REYES' COLUMN. THE FAMILY ASKED

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:
29-Jun-2010

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

THE EMBASSY TO INVESTIGATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS DEMISE AND THE EMBASSY DID SO.

B. I DO NOT RECALL ANY HONDURAN SOLDIER NAMED VASQUEZ.

C. I BELIEVE [REDACTED] WAS ASKED BY THE EMBASSY [REDACTED] AS TO WHAT HAPPENED TO FATHER CARNEY. ANY INFORMATION ACQUIRED WOULD HAVE BEEN SHARED WITH STATE OFFICERS AND INCLUDED IN THEIR REPORTING.

D. [REDACTED] I BELIEVE THAT SEVERAL FI REPORTS WERE DISSEMINATED AT THE TIME. THE REPORTS WILL REFLECT WHO PROVIDED THE INFORMATION AND WHAT THEY TOLD US.

E. STATE HAD THE LEAD IN THE INVESTIGATION SINCE FATHER CARNEY WAS A U.S. PERSON. [REDACTED]

F. I BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. ARMY HAD A DEPLOYMENT FOR TRAINING OF AN ENGINEER BATTALION IN OLANCHO AT AQUACATE AIR BASE WHICH WAS A HONDURAN MILITARY INSTALLATION. THIS IS THE ONLY U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN OLANCHO THAT I RECALL. [REDACTED]

II.

A. [REDACTED] REPORTING WAS AVAILABLE FOR USE IN PREPARATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT. THE DRAFT REPORTS WERE COORDINATED WITH [REDACTED]

B. THE EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION PREPARED THE REPORTS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALL [REDACTED] REPORTING WAS SHARED WITH THE POLITICAL SECTION AT THE TIME IT WAS DISSEMINATED. I DO NOT RECALL ANY DISAGREEMENTS ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

C. I RECALL NO CLASSIFICATION ISSUES.

D. I BELIEVE I READ THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS. AS I RECALL,
THEY FAIRLY REFLECTED THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION AS WE KNEW IT. I
DO NOT BELIEVE ANYONE WAS PRESSURED TO DOWNPLAY HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

III.

A. [REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED]

C. [REDACTED]

IV.

A. I DO NOT KNOW IF CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS ASKED ABOUT
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY FAILURE TO PROVIDE
INFORMATION TO CONGRESS, POLICYMAKERS OR HEADQUARTERS.

B. I RECALL NO SUCH CASES.

V.

A. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B. NO.

C. [REDACTED]
RIGHTS ABUSES.
BEEN REPORTED.

[REDACTED] WERE ALERT TO INDICATIONS OF HUMAN
[REDACTED] THE INFORMATION WOULD HAVE

[REDACTED]

D. NONE.

E. I NEVER HEARD OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

3. FILE: [REDACTED]

END OF MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~

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